

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

Claims 1-31, 33-36, and 38-43 are pending. By this Amendment, claims 19, 26, 34-36, and 40-41 are amended, and claims 32 and 37 are canceled without prejudice or disclaimer. No new matter is added. Support for the claims can be found throughout the specification, including the original claims, and the drawings. Reconsideration in view of the above amendments and following remarks is respectfully requested.

The Examiner is thanked for the courtesies extended to Applicant's representative during the February 17, 2010 telephone interview. The points discussed are incorporated herein.

The Office Action rejected claims 1-13, 15-29, and 34-38, under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) as being anticipated by Kunii et al. (hereinafter "Kunii"), U.S. Patent Publication No. 2002/0122080, and rejected claims 14, 30-33, and 39-43 under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Kunii in view of Atkinson et al. (hereinafter "Atkinson"), U.S. Patent No. 6,760,850. These rejections are respectfully traversed.

Each of the independent claims 19, 26, 34, 35, 36, and 40 have been amended to recite the event timer feature. As agreed in the February 17, 2010 telephone interview, Kunii and Atkinson, taken alone or in combination, fail to disclose or suggest such features.

Accordingly, independent claims 19, 26, 34, 35, 36, and 40 define over the applied prior art. Dependent claims 1-18, 20-25, 27-31, 33, 38-39, and 41-43 are allowable over the applied prior art at least for the reasons discussed above with respect to independent claims 19, 26, 34, 35, 36, and 40, from which they respectively depend, as well as for their added features.

Serial No. **10/813,113**

Docket No. **P-0581**

Amdt. dated March 4, 2010

Reply to Office Action of October 5, 2009

CONCLUSION

In view of the foregoing amendments and remarks, it is respectfully submitted that the application is in condition for allowance. Favorable consideration and prompt allowance are earnestly solicited.

If the Examiner believes that any additional changes would place the application in better condition for allowance, the Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned attorney at the telephone number listed below.

To the extent necessary, a petition for an extension of time under 37 C.F.R. 1.136 is hereby made. Please charge any shortage in fees due in connection with the filing of this, concurrent and future replies, including extension of time fees, to Deposit Account 16-0607 and please credit any excess fees to such deposit account.

Respectfully submitted,
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